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REMARKS

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Claims 1-22 are pending in the Application. Claims 1 and 10 are independent claims. Claims 19 and 21 have been amended.

Claim Rejections -- 35 USC § 103

The Patent Office rejected claims 1-5 and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guggisberg ("Guggisberg", U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0029598) in view of Frankel et al. ("Frankel", U.S. Patent No. 5,963,620). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

"To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (emphasis added) (MPEP § 2143). If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. (emphasis added) *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Applicant respectfully submits Claims 1-5 and 10-14 recite elements not disclosed by Guggisberg or Frankel. For example, Claims 1 and 10 generally recite:

a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins, each of said messaging plug-ins being assigned a selected port; and messaging redirector plug-ins for the browser program which are each assigned to a same said selected port to allow the digital telephone to log on to the computer workstation and each of said messaging redirector plug-ins using a respective said selected port to forward selected messages to the digital telephone logged on to the workstation.

Guggisberg and Frankel do not teach a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins. Guggisberg and Frankel further do not teach messaging redirector plug-ins for the browser program which forward selected messages to a digital telephone logged on to the workstation. A

plug-in is a program that interacts with a main application to provide a very specific function on demand. A browser is a user interface that allows navigation of objects with a connecting structure.

Guggisberg discloses a method for transmitting SMS (Short Message Service) between computers in the Internet by converting the SMS into a data format suitable for transfer on a computer network. Guggisberg further discloses a terminal connected to a network which sends and receives SMS messages (paragraphs 0049 and 0053). However, Guggisberg does not discuss a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins or messaging redirector plug-ins for the browser. Guggisberg only discloses how the SMS messages are sent through the network. Guggisberg describes purely network protocol layer functions. Guggisberg is silent on how the terminal actually deals with the SMS message other than the terminal sends and receives it. Guggisberg does not discuss application level details. Browsers and plug-ins are application level details. A terminal sending and receiving SMS messages is not equivalent to supporting messaging plug-ins. Guggisberg does not teach a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins or messaging redirector plug-ins for the browser program which forward selected messages to a digital telephone logged on to the workstation.

Frankel does not remedy the defects of Guggisberg. Frankel discloses a communications control device (dynamically configurable via a PC through a serial port interface) which integrates telephones and faxes, manages multiple simultaneous calls, records messages, and manages an interface to the telephone network through an ISDN line (Figure 1). Frankel also discloses a control processor, configurable through a serial port interface to a PC, which manages an interface between telephone equipment and an ISDN line (col. 7 lines 9-23). Frankel further discloses the interfacing of multiple communications control devices (each integrating telephones and faxes, managing multiple simultaneous calls, recording messages, and managing an ISDN interface) via their respective ISDN line interfaces (col. 12 lines 9-26). However, Frankel nowhere discusses a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins or messaging redirector plug-ins for the browser. Frankel does not teach a browser program which supports messaging plug-ins or messaging redirector plug-ins for the browser program forward selected messages to a digital telephone logged on to the workstation.

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Guggisberg and Frankel, separately or combined, do not teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations. Thus, at least based on these reasons, independent Claims 1 and 10 are nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 2-5 depend from Claim 1 and are therefore allowable due to their dependence upon Claim 1. Claims 11-14 depend from Claim 10 and are therefore allowable due to their dependence upon Claim 10.

The Patent Office rejected claims 6-9 and 15-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guggisberg and Frankel in further view of Szlam et al. ("Szlam", U.S. Patent No. 6,359,892). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Claims 6-9, 19, and 20 depend from Claim 1, which is allowable for the reasons set forth above, and are thus allowable based on their dependence on an allowable base claim. Claims 15-18, 21, and 22 depend from Claim 10, which is allowable for the reasons set forth above, and are thus allowable based on their dependence on an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Issuance of the present application as a patent is therefore solicited.

It is believed no fee is due at this time. However, should the Examiner disagree, please charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-2179. Please also charge this deposit account, at any time during the pendency of this application, for any additional fees required, or credit any overpayment, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.25.

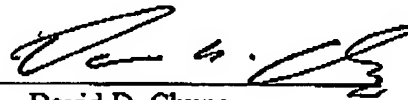
Date:

15 Feb 07

Respectfully submitted,

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